

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY COMMUNIST CHINA

DATE OF 13-19 July 1953
INFORMATION

SUBJECT INDICATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL VULNERABILITIES

DATE DIST 20 August 1953

HOW
PUBLISHED

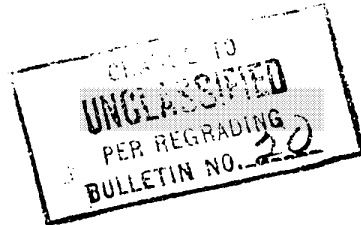
WHERE
PUBLISHED

DATE
PUBLISHED

LANGUAGE

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.



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CPW Report No. 83-A -- COMMUNIST CHINA
(13 - 19 July 1953)

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SUMMARY

Soviet aid is acknowledged in the construction of China's first auto factory, and returning scientists hold meetings and classes to impress Soviet superiority upon Chinese intellectual workers. Post offices again offer Soviet publications to the public, a program which apparently was not very effective in the past. At the same time, Moscow propaganda concerning the Beria case and the U.S. food offer to East Germany is accepted and repeated without deviation.

Party leadership is strengthened on construction projects, where "erroneous thinking" had developed; Party projects are expanded in the Armed Forces; and, ideological training is accelerated in factories and mines. Technical training courses are re-organized in an effort to advance the heavy industry program, and "education" is urged for workers violating labor discipline. Establishment of people's tribunals to pass on voters' qualifications indicates the control which will be exercised over the elections, while enlistment of Buddhists in the campaign against "Catholic imperialists" is part of an apparent plan to advance strict Party or State control over religious groups.

Commercial and industrial weaknesses are illustrated by efforts of "Ankang" to force deliveries of needed materials ahead of schedule; by admitted fear of commodity speculation; and, by complaints over lack of planning and responsibility. Buyer resistance, causing one tobacco factory to reduce output, probably results from the admittedly poor quality of the products. It is revealed that the power production plan is far behind schedule, while attempts to speed up production have resulted in low-quality goods and broken machinery, and excessive absenteeism. Construction or expansion of 137 consumer goods factories is promised, perhaps to allay resentment against the "guns instead of butter" basic construction plan.

The establishment of "experimental hsien" to test programs, train leaders, and "learn the wishes of the masses"; charges that peasants and cadres waste time in unnecessary meetings; and, orders for examination of mutual aid teams practices--all suggest new efforts to allay peasant dissatisfaction. Hundreds of men are reported working with hoes on the so-called mechanized farms, while other indications of unsatisfactory rural conditions can be seen in the revelation that 30 percent of the plows produced in one farm machinery plant were defective, and that in some areas stores do not offer sufficient goods to supply the peasants.

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